MIGRATORY BIRD

1997 HUNTING REGULATIONS STATE OF MONTANA

Joe Thornbrugh, Artist

These regulations and final quotas are adopted under the authority granted to the commission in Section 87-1-301, MCA and are valid March 1, 1997 through February 28, 1998. These regulations were adopted by the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission on Sept. 4, 1997. Patrick J. Graham, Secretary.

Montana Migratory Bird Stamp Program

The goals of the Montana Migratory Bird Stamp Program are to protect and enhance waterfowl habitat and to provide for a wide spectrum of waterfowl-related activities. The program's primary focus is to protect and develop wetlands and adjacent upland habitat for the long-term benefit of waterfowl and other wildlife species. Funds for the program are generated from the sale of the required stamp to migratory bird hunters, and the nationwide sale of collector stamps, limited edition prints of the stamp and associated promotional items.

The dollars you spend on your Montana Migratory Bird Stamp go directly into waterfowl habitat enhancement projects in this state. These efforts in Montana are very productive and your continued help is essential. This would be an excellent year for you to invest in the future of waterfowl by taking a youngster, a friend, or a former waterfowl hunter along when you go out to enjoy the great waterfowl hunting opportunities that Montana offers.

Thanks for your support and enjoy your waterfowl hunting season!

For further information on the Montana Migratory Bird Stamp Program, please contact Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks at 406-444-2612 or write to FWP Migratory Bird Stamp Program, POB 200701, Helena, MT 59620.

MONTANA MIGRATORY BIRD LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

	Waterfowl - (Duck, Geese, Swans)				Webless Migratory Game Birds (Doves, Cranes, Coot & Common Snipe)
Resident/ Nonresident	**Age**	**MT Migratory Bird Stamp Required**	**Federal Migratory Stamp Required**	**Conservation License Required**	
Resident	12 - 14	No	No	Yes	Conservation Only
Resident	15	Yes	No	Yes	Conservation & MT Migratory Bird Stamp
Resident	16 - 61	Yes	Yes	Yes	Conservation & MT Migratory Bird Stamp
Resident	62+ or FWP Certified Disabled	No	Yes	Yes	Conservation Only
Nonresident	12 - 14	No	No	Yes	Conservation Only
Nonresident	15	Yes	No	Yes	Conservation & MT Migratory Bird Stamp
Nonresident	16+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Conservation & MT Migratory Bird Stamp

License & Miscellaneous Information

Persons under 12 may not legally hunt game birds.

Both resident and nonresident waterfowl (ducks, geese, swans) hunters must carry on their person the valid license(s) required and the Montana Migratory Bird Stamp must be signed in ink across the face of the stamp.

A valid "Resident of Flathead Reservation Use Permit" with a valid Flathead Reservation bird stamp will be honored by the State wherever hunting for upland or migratory birds is lawful in Montana.

Whooping Cranes: Notice—Whooping Cranes are protected by law. It is illegal to take or attempt to take this bird. If a Whooping Crane is sighted, please call toll-free 1-800-332-6117.

National Wildlife Refuges: More restrictive regulations may apply to national wildlife refuges open to public hunting. For additional information on federal regulations, contact: Special Agent-in-Charge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225. Telephone:303-234-4612.

General Regulations

Means of Taking — Migratory game birds may be taken only with long, recurve or compound bow and arrow or shotgun not larger than ten gauge incapable of holding more than three shells fired from the shoulder. May not be taken from or by means, or aid of, or use of a sinkbox, aircraft, motor vehicle, or motor-driven conveyance of any kind, except a motorboat when the motor has been shut off and the boat has stopped. Use of any electronic or phonographic waterfowl-calling device is illegal.

Non-Toxic Shot — It is unlawful for anyone to use or possess a shotgun shell or ammunition loaded with or containing other than federally approved non-toxic shot, while hunting, taking or attempting to take ducks, geese, swans or coots.

Possession of "other than non-toxic shot" means in the gun, or in the pockets, or within reach while in the process of waterfowl hunting. Shot, other than non-toxic shot, left in a vehicle, while parked in the waterfowl hunting area, would not be considered "in possession" for the purpose of hunting.

Restrictions — No person shall take migratory birds by driving, rallying, or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sail boat to put them in range of the hunter; by the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat, salt or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement). Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait, and it is not necessary for the hunter to know an area is baited to be in violation.

Hunting Hours — One half hour before sunrise to sunset except on the Flathead Indian Reservation, the hunting hours shall be sunrise to sunset.

Leave Wing Attached — One fully feathered wing or head must remain attached to each bird (except doves) at all times while being transported from the place where taken to the personal abode of the possessor or a processing facility.

Wanton Waste — No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird pursuant to this part without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird, and retain it in his actual custody, at the place where taken or between that place and either (a) his automobile or principal means of land transportation; or (b) his personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging; or (c) migratory game bird preservation facility; or (d) a post office; or (3) a common carrier facility.

Game Parts Suitable for Food — All birds that fall into the size category of a teal duck or smaller only the breasts must be retained.

All birds larger than a teal duck up to the size category of a mallard duck, the breasts and the thighs must be retained.

All birds larger than mallard ducks, the breasts, thighs and wings must be retained.

Field Possession Limit — No person shall possess more than one daily bag limit while in the field, or while returning from the field to one's vehicle, hunting camp, home, etc.

Tagging — No person shall give, put or leave any migratory birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information: 1) The hunter's signature; 2) The hunter's address; 3) The total number of birds involved, by species; 4) The dates such birds were killed. Tagging is required if the

birds are being transported by another person for the hunter, or if the birds have been left for cleaning, storage (including temporary storage), shipment, or taxidermy services.

Flathead Reservation — The State of Montana and Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes have entered into a cooperative management agreement on the Flathead Reservation. Please check for migratory bird regulations specific to the Flathead Reservation. For information call FWP at 752-5501 or the Tribes at 675-2700.

Closed Areas — State game preserves, closures, and national parks shall remain closed to hunting of migratory game birds. For hunting privileges on Federal Wildlife Refuges, inquire at the local refuge office. Tribal regulations may differ from state regulations, consult tribal offices.

Wildlife Management Areas with big game winter range are closed to public entry from the day following the end of the general deer/elk season or December 1, whichever is later to May 15 each year, as posted. EXCEPTION: Blackfoot-Clearwater WMA closes November 10.

PACIFIC FLYWAY

PACIFIC FLYWAY: see closures

The Pacific Flyway includes Hill, Chouteau, Cascade, Meagher and Park counties and all counties lying west of these.

Ducks

Open Season:

October 4, 1997 - January 17, 1998

*See Exception 1, Pacific Flyway (Geese)

Bag Limit: The daily bag limit is 7 ducks and mergansers, except that the daily bag may contain no more than 2 female mallards, 3 pintails, 2 redheads and 1 canvasback.

The possession limit may not exceed twice the daily bag limit of any species and sex.

Coots

Open Season:

Concurrent with the duck season.

Bag Limit: 25 daily and in possession.

Geese

Open Season:

October 4, 1997 - January 11, 1998 (See Exceptions)

Daily Limit: 3 light geese (Snow, Blue, Ross') and 4 dark geese (all other geese).

Possession Limit: Twice the daily bag.

CONSERVE GAME
USE A TRAINED RETRIEVER

Sandhill Crane

Open Season:

September 13-14 & September 20-21, 1997

Hunting in specified portions of Madison and Beaverhead County or Deer Lodge County or Powell County by special limited permit only. Hunters must apply in writing by July 1. Applicants could apply for only one area and need to specify hunting area of choice. The quotas are 65 permits for Dillon-Twin Bridges Area, 15 for Warm Springs Area and 15 for Ovando-Helmville Area.

Bag and Possession Limit: 1 crane.

Common (Wilson's) Snipe

Open Season:

September 1, 1997 – December 16, 1997

Bag Limit: 8 daily and 16 in possession.

Swan

Hunting in Cascade, Chouteau, Liberty, Hill, Toole and portions of Teton and Pondera County by special swan permit only. See Exception 1, Pacific Flyway (Swan).

Open Season:

October 18, 1997 – December 1, 1997

Swan hunters must have, as a means of retrieving swans, a watercraft, a dog capable of retrieving or chest-high waders along while hunting the dikes at Freezout Lake.

Exceptions – Pacific Flyway (Geese)

Exception 1, Canyon Ferry: Ducks and Geese shall be open one-half hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon October 4, 1997 – October 10, 1997, in those portions of Broadwater, Lewis and Clark and Jefferson counties as follows: Beginning at Canyon Ferry Dam, then in a westerly and southerly direction along State Route 284 to U.S. Highway 287, then east along said highway approximately one-quarter (¼) mile to the Jefferson-Broadwater County line, then southerly along said line to the S.W. corner of T7N, R1W, then easterly along the south boundary of said township to its intersection with Indian Creek, then easterly down said creek to its intersection with U.S. Highway 287, then southerly along said highway to its intersection with U.S. Highway 12 at Townsend, then easterly along said highway to the Broadwater-Meagher County line, then northerly along said line to the head of Magpie Gulch, then southerly down said gulch to State Route 284, then westerly along said highway to Canyon Ferry Dam, the point of beginning.

Exception 2, Canyon Ferry: Shall be open one-half hour before sunrise to sunset October 11, 1997 – January 11, 1998, in the above described area.

Exception 3, Deer Lodge County: That portion of Deer Lodge County west of the Continental Divide shall be open one-half hour before sunrise to sunset October 18, 1997 – January 11, 1998.

Exception 4, Missoula County: Closed to hunting of all geese: A tract of land comprised of portions of Sections 20, 21, 28, T13N, R18W, more particularly bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the Montana Power dam at Milltown and extending in an easterly direction along the north shore of the impoundment to Interstate Highway 90, then in a southeasterly

direction along Interstate Highway 90 to the Old Milwaukee Railroad, then in a southwesterly direction across the reservoir where the old railroad bridge existed, then in a northwesterly direction along the railroad to the Montana Power Dam, the point of beginning.

NOTE: Drawing will be conducted each morning to determine assignment of goose hunting pits at Ninepipes Wildlife Management Area.

Exception - Pacific Flyway (Swans)

Exception 1: Closed to hunting of all swans, those portions of Teton and Pondera counties lying west of US Highway 287 from Augusta to Choteau and US Highway 89 from Choteau to the Blackfeet Indian Reservation.

TURN IN POACHERS

with this information

- What, Where
- When, Who
- How

1-800-TIP-MONT
(847-6668)

Waterfowl Hunter Field Log

Date	County Hunted	No. of Ducks Shot & Retrieved	No. of Geese Shot & Retrieved
Totals			

CONSEP 1997 STEEL SHOT LETH

Proven Steel Shot Loads for Waterfowl[1] *Load Velocity: 1,225 - 1,425 FPS* ACTIVITY	Typical Shooting Range of Activity (yards)	Most Effective Steel Shot Size(s) for Activity
Large Geese at Long Range[2] Giant, Western, Atlantic and Interior Canadas	50-65	BBB to T
Large Geese Over Decoys[2]	40-50	BB to BBB
Medium/Small Geese at Long Range[2] Snow, White-front, Lesser Canadas	50-65	BB to BBB
Medium/Small Geese Over Decoys[2]	40-50	2 to BB
Large Ducks at Long Range Mallard, Black, Pintail, Goldeneye, Gadwall	45-65	2 to 1
Large Ducks Over Decoys [3,4]	30-45	6 to 2
Large Ducks in Flooded Timber [3,4]	20-30	6 to 4
Medium Ducks Over Decoys [3,4] Wigeon, Scaup, Shoveler	30-45	6 to 3
Small Ducks Over Decoys [3,4] Teal, Ruddy, Bufflehead	30-45	6 to 4
Swatter Load for Wounded Birds	20-35	7 to 5

This table summarizes analysis to date of the waterfowl lethality data base of the Cooperative No engage in thorough pattern testing and ample target practice, but also restrict shooting to ranges **Note: To date, steel #BBB (.190") has exhibited the best all-around performance for taking**

1 These findings are derived from testing 3" 20-gauge and $2^{3}/_{4}$", 3", and $3^{1}/_{2}$" 12-gauge stee completed, findings will be updated and may change.

2 Steel #F (.220") in all 12-gauge load configurations has exhibited the highest crippling rate lethal on geese beyond 55 yards.

3 Steel #4 (.130") has exhibited good all-around performance for taking small and medium-s

4 Steel #6 (.110") has proven lethal out to 40 yards on all ducks tested. It has proven partic

This terminal ballistics information is provided courtesy of the members of CONSEP. CO agencies; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; the Canadian Wildlife Service; the Victoria De and Remington Arms Company. Contributing members include Larry Gore's Katy Prairie

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LITY TABLE FOR WATERFOWL ©

Minimum Load Weight (oz)	Minimum Pellet Hits Needed in Lethal Areas for Clean Kills	Minimum Pattern Count Needed at Any Distance for Clean Kills (# of Pellets in 30" Circle)	Most Effective Choke(s) (Give in Lead Shot Designations)
-1/4	3-4	45-50	Improved Modified
-1/8	3-4	45-50	Modified
-1/4	3-4	55-60	Improved Modified
-1/8	3-4	55-60	Modified
-1/8	2-3	80-85	Full
1	3-4	85	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)
3/4	4	85	Improved Cylinder
1	4	110	Improved Cylinder (20-35 Yds) Modified (35-45 Yds)
1	3	130-140	Modified (20-35 Yards) Full (35-45 Yards)
1	--	160	Full

merican Shotgunning Education Program (CONSEP). Responsible waterfowl hunters not only
than 45 yards.
se; steel #3 (.140") the best all-around performance for taking ducks.
s. As additional pellet sizes, load configurations, and gauges are tested and data bases

eese of all steel pellet sizes tested. Due to inadequate pattern density, steel #F has not proven

ducks, but has not proven lethal on large ducks beyond 45 yards.
effective out to 35 yards when used with chokes no tighter than Modified.

P is a research and information service currently funded jointly by 25 state fish and wildlife ment of Conservation and Environment, Australia; Winchester Division/Olin Corporation; Eagle Lake Outfitters, and Briley Manufacturing Company.

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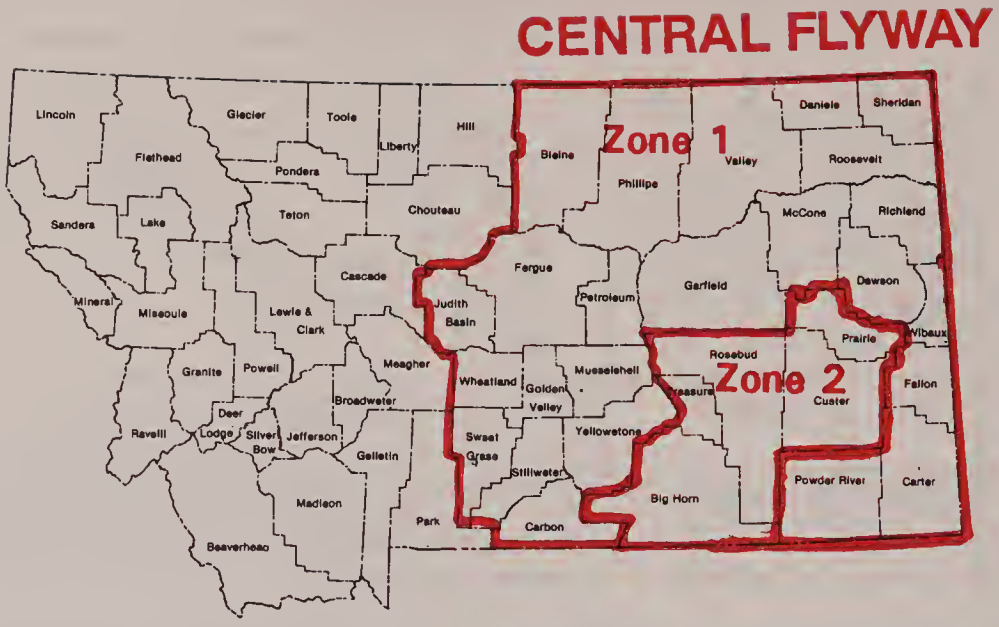


CENTRAL FLYWAY – see closures

The Central Flyway includes Blaine, Fergus, Judith Basin, Wheatland, Sweet Grass, Stillwater and Carbon counties and all counties lying east of these.

Ducks

Zone 1: Includes Blaine, Carbon, Carter, Daniels, Dawson, Fallon, Fergus, Garfield, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, McCone, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Powder River, Richland, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Valley, Wheatland, Wibaux and Yellowstone Counties

October 4, 1997 - January 8, 1998

Zone 2: Includes Bighorn Co. (where the Bighorn River is the county line between Yellowstone and Treasure counties, the Zone 1 and 2 boundary shall be northerly along State highway 47 to its junction with I-94, then north along the section lines on the east side of sections 30 and 31 to the Yellowstone River), Custer, Prairie, Rosebud and Treasure Counties.

October 4, 1997 - January 8, 1998

Bag Limits: The daily bag limit is 6 ducks containing no more than 5 mallards, of which no more than 2 may be females, 2 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 3 pintails, and 1 canvasback. The daily merganser bag limit is 5 mergansers, containing no more than 1 hooded merganser.

The possession limit may not exceed twice the daily bag limit of any species and sex.

Coots

Open Season:

Concurrent with the duck season

Bag Limit: 15 daily and 30 in possession.

Geese

Open Season:

October 4, 1997 - January 18, 1998

Daily Limit: 5 light geese (Snow, Blue, Ross') and 4 dark geese (all other geese)

Possession Limit: Twice the daily limit.

Sandhill Crane

Open Season:

October 4, 1997 - November 30, 1997

Persons wishing to hunt Sandhill Cranes must obtain a free permit available in late August from the Bowdoin National Wildlife Refuge; Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge; Fish, Wildlife & Parks regional headquarters in Glasgow, Billings, Miles City, and the Fish, Wildlife & Parks office in Helena.

Exceptions: That area south and west of Interstate Highway 90 shall be closed to the hunting of Sandhill Cranes.

Bag Limit: 3 daily and 6 in possession.

By permit only: Wheatland County and that part of Sweetgrass County north of I-90:

September 13, 1997 - September 21, 1997

Hunting in specified portions of these two counties is by special limited permit only. Hunters must apply in writing by July 1. Hunters may apply for only one permit area in the state and must specify area of choice. The quota is 30 permits.

Bag & Possession Limit: 1 crane

Common (Wilson's) Snipe

Open Season:

September 1, 1997 – December 16, 1997

Bag Limit: 8 daily and 16 in possession

Tundra Swan

Open Season:

October 4, 1997 - January 6, 1998

Hunting by special swan permit only. Inquire with the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Helena Headquarters and the Billings regional office after September 20 as to the availability of swan permits for the Central Flyway.

SPECIAL ONE-DAY YOUTH DUCK SEASON

September 27, 1997 - Statewide

The U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service is allowing one additional day to provide a special hunting opportunity to encourage youth participation in waterfowling. Legally licensed hunters age 12 through 15 may hunt ducks statewide on this day. A nonhunting adult at least 18 years of age must accompany the youth hunter in the field. The bag limit, shooting hours, hunter safety requirements and all other regulations that apply to the regular duck season shall apply to this special season.

STATEWIDE

Mourning Dove

Open Season:

September 1, 1997 – October 30, 1997

Bag Limit: 15 daily and 30 in possession.

A Federal migratory bird stamp is not required to hunt mourning doves. A Montana migratory bird stamp is required.

Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

Mourning doves may be taken only with long, recurve or compound bow and arrow or shotgun not larger than 10 gauge incapable of holding more than three shells fired from the shoulder.

It is illegal to use any motorized conveyance to drive, rally or chase birds; use of records or tapes of migratory birdcalls or sounds is illegal; it is illegal to hunt by the use of baiting; and it is illegal to shoot doves resting on utility lines or fixtures adjacent to those lines.

Falconry Season

Ducks and Coots — PACIFIC FLYWAY

October 4, 1997 - January 17, 1998

Ducks and Coots — CENTRAL FLYWAY

September 24, 1997 – January 8, 1998

Geese — STATEWIDE

October 4, 1997 – January 18, 1998

Bag Limit: For all permitted migratory birds, the bag limit is 2 daily and 6 in possession, singly or in the aggregate, during both the regular hunting season and the extended falconry season.

STATEWIDE CLOSURES

By order of the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission, the following described areas are closed to hunting, harassment, or molesting of migratory waterfowl. Some national wildlife refuges may have regulations differing from the statewide regulations on certain species. **Check with refuge manager before hunting.**

Region 1, Flathead County: Beginning where the west access road to the Flathead Lake Waterfowl Production Area enters said area in the SW¼ of the SE¼, Section 24, T26N, R21W approximately one-half mile east of the town of Somers, then E-NE along fence marking U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service property as posted to the west property line of the Dedman ownership in the W½ of Section 20, T26N, R20W, then south along said line fence as posted to the north shore of Flathead Lake, then south and westerly approximately 1- 3/4 miles to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service ownership sign as posted in the N½ of the N½ of Section 25, T27N, R32W, then northerly along west property line of said Waterfowl Production Area to the point of beginning. **(This area is Also Closed to Hunting of Upland Game Birds.)**

Region 2, Warm Springs Pond No. 3: (Deer Lodge County): An area of land comprising portions of Sections 1, 2, 11 and 12, T4N, R10W, portions of Sections 30 and 31, T5N, R9W, and portions of Sections 25 and 36, T5N, R10W, described as follows: Beginning at the junction of Interstate Highway 90 and the Opportunity Road; then northerly on said road to the northerly base of the dike of Warm Springs Settling Pond No. 3; then northwesterly along the base of said dike to the area road passing through the Mill-Willow Bypass; then due west from junction of base of said dike and road to Interstate

Highway 90 (as posted); then southerly along said Interstate to its junction with Opportunity Road, the point of beginning.

Region 3, Portion of the Manhattan Game Closure: Beginning at the intersection of the west bank of the West Gallatin River and Interstate Highway 90, then running west along the south boundary of said Interstate to a point near the interstate which leads to the ranch entrance of the R.A. Young Ranch, then southwesterly to the east bank of the Spring Creek irrigation canal, then southwesterly along the east bank of said canal to the closest point to the Perk's Canal, then (as posted) westerly to the Perk Canal then southerly along the east bank of the Perk Canal to Camp Creek, then southerly along the southeast side of Camp Creek to a left fork known as Spring Creek, then southerly along the southeast bank of Spring Creek to the south line of Section 23, T1N, R3E, then east along the south line of Sections 23 and 24, T1N, R3E, and Section 19 T1N, R4E, to the West Gallatin River, then north along the west bank of said river to its intersection with Interstate Highway 90, the point of beginning.

Region 4, Freezout Wildlife Management Area: (Teton County): SW¼, Section 19, Sections 29 and 30, T22N, R3W, W½ Section 12, W½ of E½ Section 12, and that portion of Sections 13 and 24 within the posted boundary of the Freezout Wildlife Management Area, T22N, R4W. (This area will be open to upland game bird hunting until the opening of the general waterfowl season; then it will be closed to all hunting through November 19, 1997, it will reopen for all hunting from November 20, 1997, to the end of the season.)

Region 3, Helena Valley Regulating Reservoir (Lewis & Clark County): The Bureau of Reclamation Regulating Reservoir located in Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 16 and 17, T10N, R2W in the Helena Valley as posted. (This area will be open to

hunting until the opening of the waterfowl season; then it will be closed to all hunting.)

Region 3, South Half of Lake Helena (Lewis & Clark County): Beginning at a point in the southwest part of Lake Helena to be marked by a red buoy, then in a southwesterly direction to the south shore, then south approximately ½ mile, then in an easterly direction 1½ miles, then north ¼ mile, then east 3/4 mile to the west bank of the BLM drain ditch D-7, then down the west bank of the drain ditch to the lake and out into the lake a distance of 400 yards to a point marked by a red buoy, then in a southwesterly direction across the lake to the point of beginning, in parts of Sections 23, 24, 25 and 26, T11N, R3W, and in parts of Sections 19 and 30, T11N, R2W.

Region 4, Missouri River (Cascade County): The Missouri River below the ordinary high water inclusive of all islands, backwaters, and sandbars, beginning at the confluence of Sand Coulee Creek and the Missouri River, Section 36, T20N R3E, then downstream to Black Eagle Dam, Section 6, T20N, R4E.

Region 5: None

Region 6, McLean Reservoir (Hill County): Approximately 2,560 acres located in Sections 16, 17, 20, 21, T36N R15E.

Region 6, Nelson Reservoir (Phillips County): All of those parts of Nelson Reservoir and within 300 yards of its shoreline within the following described sections: Sections 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35, T32N,R32E; and Sections 25 and 26, T32N, R31E; and Section 1, T31N, R31E; and Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6, T, 31N, R32E.

Region 6, North Chinook Reservoir (Blaine County): Approximately 2,215 acres located in the following sections and part sections of T35N, R18E: NE¼, NW¼, N½, SE¼,

N½, S½, SE¼, portion of the SW¼ Section 22, 23 and 24; NE¼, SE¼, N½ NW¼, portion of S½ NW¼ Section 25; portion of the N½ NW¼ Section 26.

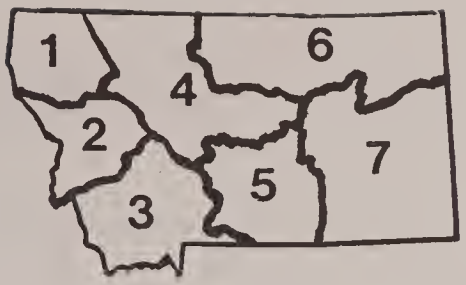
Region 6, Sands Lake (Hill County): SW¼, Section 18, T32N, R16E.

Region 7, Treasure & Rosebud Counties: Beginning at the junction of the Bighorn and Yellowstone Rivers, then east down the Yellowstone River to the Rosebud-Custer County line, east of Hathaway, Montana (as posted). This closure shall be within the confines of the normal stream flow and shall include all islands, backwaters, and sandbars.

IF WHOOPING CRANE IS SIGHTED CALL 1-800-332-6117

PLEASE REPORT THE BAND NUMBER, LOCATION AND DATE SHOT FOR ANY BANDED MIGRATORY GAME BIRD THAT YOU HARVEST TO THE NEAREST FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS OFFICE OR CALL 1-800-327-BAND

State Headquarters
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks
1420 East Sixth Avenue
HELENA 59620
(406)444-2535



REGIONAL OFFICES

REGION 1
490 North Meridian Rd.
KALISPELL 59901
(406)752-5501

REGION 2
3201 Spurgin Road
MISSOULA 59801
(406)542-5500

REGION 3
1400 South 19th
BOZEMAN 59715
(406)994-4042

1820 Meadowlark Lane
BUTTE 59701
(406)494-1953

930 Custer Avenue West
HELENA 59620
(406)444-4720

REGION 4
4600 Giant Springs Road
GREAT FALLS 59406
(406)454-5840

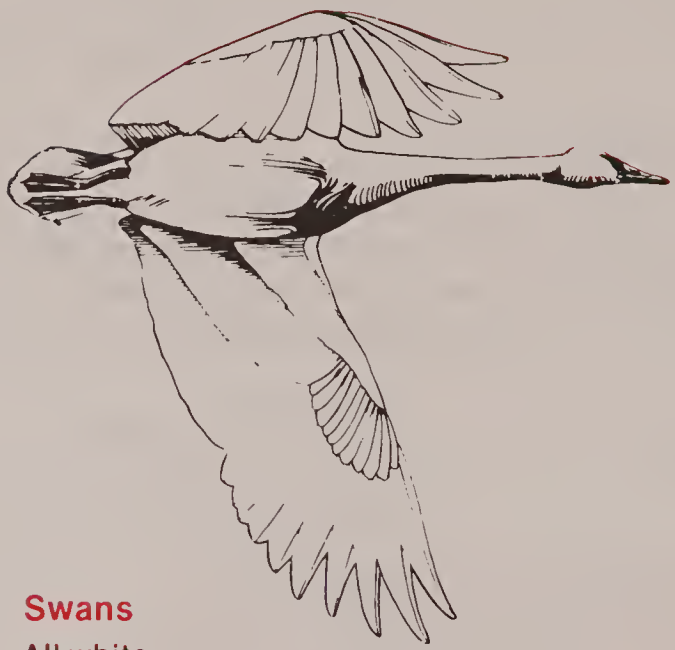
REGION 5
2300 Lake Elmo Drive
BILLINGS 59105
(406)247-2940

REGION 6
Route 1-4210
GLASGOW 59230
(406)228-3700

2165 Highway 2 East
HAVRE 59501
(406)265-6177

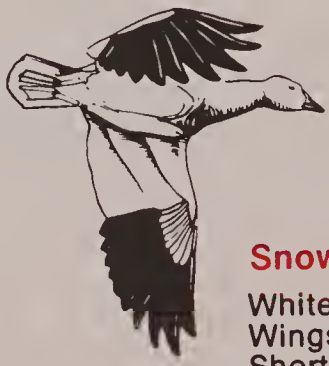
REGION 7
P.O. Box 1630
MILES CITY 59301
(406)232-0900

Whooping Cranes and Birds Which Appear Similar



Swans

All white.
Neck long, extended straight forward in flight.
Wingspan: over 6 feet.
Short legs, do not extend beyond tail in flight.
Flocks of 2 to 10.



Snow Geese

White with black wingtips.
Wingspan: 3 to 4 feet.
Short legs.
Rapid wingbeat.
Flocks of 20 to hundreds.

Drawings by Doreen Curtin, courtesy National Audubon Society.

Whooping Cranes

White with black wingtips.
Juveniles have a mixture of white and brown body feathers, with black wingtips.
Necks long, extended straight forward in flight.
Wingspan: 7 feet.
Legs extend beyond tail in flight.
Slow wingbeat.
Flocks of 2 to 7, sometimes migrate with sandhill cranes.

Sandhill Cranes

Gray, with dark wingtips.
Neck long, extended straight forward in flight.
Wingspan: 5 feet.
Legs extend beyond tail in flight.
Slow wingbeat.
Flocks of 2 to hundreds.

1997 Sunrise/Sunset Tables

These tables, including adjustments for daylight savings time, are the official sunrise-sunset tables adopted by the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission for determining hunting hours in Montana.
(Do not utilize tables from other sources.)

	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Zone 4	
OCT.	**Rise**	**Set**	**Rise**	**Set**	**Rise**	**Set**	**Rise**	**Set**
1-3	7:36	7:15	7:28	7:06	7:13	6:53	7:03	6:42
4-6	7:40	7:09	7:32	7:01	7:17	6:47	7:07	6:36
7-9	7:44	7:03	7:36	6:55	7:21	6:42	7:11	6:30
10-12	7:48	6:57	7:40	6:49	7:25	6:36	7:15	6:25
13-15	7:53	6:51	7:44	6:44	7:29	6:31	7:19	6:19
16-18	7:57	6:46	7:48	6:38	7:33	6:25	7:23	6:14
19-21	8:01	6:41	7:52	6:33	7:37	6:20	7:27	6:08
22-24	8:05	6:35	7:56	6:28	7:41	6:15	7:31	6:03
25	8:08	6:32	7:59	6:24	7:44	6:12	7:34	6:00
26	7:10	5:30	7:01	5:23	6:45	5:10	6:36	4:58
27-29	7:13	5:27	7:04	5:19	6:48	5:07	6:38	4:55
30-31	7:21	5:22	7:08	5:15	6:52	5:03	6:43	4:50
NOV.	**Rise**	**Set**	**Rise**	**Set**	**Rise**	**Set**	**Rise**	**Set**
1-3	7:20	5:19	7:11	5:12	6:55	5:00	6:46	4:47
4-6	7:24	5:15	7:15	5:07	6:59	4:56	6:50	4:43
7-9	7:29	5:11	7:20	5:03	7:04	4:52	6:54	4:39
10-12	7:33	5:07	7:24	4:59	7:08	4:48	6:59	4:35
13-15	7:38	5:03	7:28	4:56	7:12	4:44	7:03	4:32
16-18	7:42	5:00	7:33	4:53	7:16	4:41	7:07	4:29
19-21	7:46	4:57	7:37	4:50	7:20	4:39	7:12	4:26
22-24	7:50	4:55	7:41	4:47	7:24	4:36	7:16	4:23
25-27	7:54	4:52	7:45	4:45	7:28	4:34	7:20	4:21
28-30	7:58	4:51	7:49	4:43	7:32	4:32	7:23	4:19
DEC.	**Rise**	**Set**	**Rise**	**Set**	**Rise**	**Set**	**Rise**	**Set**
1-3	8:02	4:49	7:53	4:42	7:36	4:31	7:27	4:18
4-6	8:05	4:48	7:56	4:41	7:39	4:30	7:30	4:17
7-9	8:09	4:48	7:59	4:41	7:42	4:30	7:34	4:16
10-12	8:12	4:47	8:02	4:40	7:45	4:30	7:36	4:16
13-15	8:14	4:48	8:05	4:41	7:48	4:30	7:39	4:17
16-18	8:16	4:48	8:07	4:41	7:50	4:31	7:41	4:17
19-21	8:18	4:50	8:09	4:42	7:52	4:32	7:43	4:18
22-24	8:20	4:51	8:10	4:44	7:53	4:33	7:45	4:20
25-27	8:21	4:53	8:11	4:46	7:54	4:35	7:46	4:22
28-30	8:22	4:55	8:12	4:48	7:55	4:37	7:47	4:24
31	8:22	4:57	8:12	4:50	7:55	4:39	7:47	4:26
JAN.	**Rise**	**Set**	**Rise**	**Set**	**Rise**	**Set**	**Rise**	**Set**
1-3	8:22	4:59	8:12	4:52	7:56	4:41	7:47	4:28
4-6	8:22	5:02	8:12	4:55	7:55	4:44	7:47	4:31
7-9	8:21	5:06	8:11	4:58	7:55	4:47	7:46	4:34
10-12	8:20	5:09	8:10	5:02	7:54	4:51	7:45	4:38
13-15	8:18	5:13	8:09	5:06	7:52	4:55	7:43	4:42
16-18	8:16	5:17	8:07	5:10	7:51	4:58	7:41	4:46

Zone 1 - Flathead, Granite, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders Counties.
Zone 2 - Beaverhead, Broadwater, Cascade, Choteau, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Glacier, Hill, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Liberty, Madison, Meagher, Park, Ponderosa, Powell, Silver Bow, Teton and Toole Counties.
Zone 3 - Blaine, Bighorn, Carbon, Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Stillwater, Sweetgrass, Wheatland and Yellowstone Counties.
Zone 4 - Carter, Custer, Daniels, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Rosebud, Richland, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Treasure, Wibaux and Valley Counties.

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks